1. A belt tensioning device for shifting a pulley such that a belt passed around said pulley can be tightened to a predetermined tension comprising:

a rod coupled to said pulley;

a member coupled to and movable along said rod;

a spring that exerts a reactive force against said member when said member is moved in a first direction along said rod; and

a spacer which engages said member to limit the advancement of said member in said first direction.

SUB A1 2. The device of claim 1 wherein said rod is a threaded rod, and said member is a nut threaded onto said threaded rod.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein said pulley is located adjacent an anchor component having an opening formed therein, and wherein said rod extends through said opening.

4. The device of claim 3 wherein said anchor component is a wall.

5. The device of claim 3 wherein said spring is located between said member and said anchor component.

6. The device of claim 3 wherein said spacer is located between said member and said anchor component.

7. The device of claim 3 wherein said first direction is towards said anchor component.

8. The device of claim 3 wherein said spring, said spacer, and said member are located on a first side of said anchor component, and wherein the device further comprises a lock nut

located on a second side of said anchor component to secure said threaded rod in place.

9. The device of claim 1 wherein said rod extends through said spring.

10. The device of claim 1 wherein said rod extends through said spacer.

11. The device of claim 1 wherein said spacer receives said spring therein.

12. The device of claim 1 wherein said pulley is pivotably mounted such that advancement of said member in said first direction causes said spring to be compressed, which in turn causes said pulley to be pivoted and the tension in said belt thereby increased.

13. The device of claim 1 further comprising an arm having a first end and a second end, said first end being coupled to said rod and said second end being coupled to said pulley.

14. The device of claim 1 wherein when said rod includes a lever mechanism to vary the force applied upon said pulley as said member is moved along said rod.

15. A belt tensioning device for shifting a pulley such that a belt passed around said pulley can be tightened to a predetermined tension comprising:

a rod;

an arm coupled to said pulley, said arm being movable along said rod;

a spring that exerts a reactive force against said arm when said arm is moved in a first direction along said rod; and

a spacer which engages said arm to limit the advancement of said arm in said first direction.

Sub A2 16. The device of claim 15 further comprising a member coupled to said rod that engages said arm and causes said arm to move in said first direction.

17. The device of claim 16 wherein said rod in a threaded rod and said member is a nut threaded onto said rod.

18. The device of claim 15 wherein said arm includes a collar that fits around said rod.

Sub B6 ~~19. A slicer comprising:~~

a slicer body;

a rotatable blade coupled to said slicer body;

a reciprocal tray for bringing a food product into and out of contact with said blade;

a motor for driving said blade, said motor being pivotable and having an output pulley operatively connected to said blade; and

a belt tensioning device for said motor such that a belt passed around said output pulley can be tightened to a predetermined tension, the belt tensioning device including a threaded rod coupled to said motor, said rod being located adjacent an anchor component, a nut threaded onto said threaded rod, a spring located adjacent said nut that exerts a reactive force against said nut when said nut is threaded in a first direction along said rod to cause said motor to pivot, and a spacer which engages said nut to limit the advancement of said nut in said first direction.~~

20. A mixer comprising:

a mixer body having a rotatable output component;

a bowl that is mountable onto said mixer body;

a motor for rotating said output component, said motor being pivotable and

having an output pulley operatively connected to said output component; and

a belt tensioning device for said motor such that a belt passed around said output pulley can be tightened to a predetermined tension, the belt tensioning device including a threaded rod coupled to said motor, said rod being located adjacent an anchor component, a nut threaded onto said threaded rod, a spring located adjacent said nut that exerts a reactive force against said nut when said nut is threaded in a first direction along said rod to cause said motor to pivot, and a spacer which engages said nut to limit the advancement of said nut in said first direction.

ADD A 3)

Add B8